

the certainty of either of these premises is shown, priority and fairness demands that *G. t. roscoe* should stand. I think now, as I thought long ago, that the publication of *G. t. iguota* was unnecessary and should be ignored until proof, not opinion, is produced to set aside the older name.—WILLIAM PALMER, *Washington, D. C.*

The Correct Name for the Florida Yellow-throat.—Accepting Mr. Palmer's line of argument, in the preceding note, as the logical one by which to determine the proper name of the Florida Yellow-throat, I would ask him on what ground he ignores Audubon's statement that the bird he described as *Sylvia roscoe* was a young Maryland Yellow-throat? Audubon was more discriminating than Mr. Palmer evidently believes him to have been and until his identification of *Sylvia roscoe* has been *proved* to be erroneous we are not justified in rejecting his views.

It may be added, that all the facts in the case strongly suggest that Audubon's type was a migrant. Hence, even if it be later discovered that the breeding Yellow-throats of western Mississippi are identical with the resident Florida form, it by no means follows that Audubon's name *roscoe* is applicable to them. In short, we shall be warranted in reversing Audubon's decision only after an examination of his type, and as this probably does not exist, there will doubtless never be a reason for refusing to accept his conclusions.—FRANK M. CHAPMAN, *American Museum of Natural History, New York City.*

Probable Breeding of the Red-bellied Nuthatch near Boston.—I am requested by Mr. F. H. Mosher to report that he saw in June, 1899, in Medford, Mass., a Red-bellied Nuthatch (*Sitta canadensis*) busily engaged in catching and carrying away larvæ, presumably to its young. Mr. Mosher failed, however, to locate the supposed nest, for the Nuthatch, as he was tracing it through the woods, was set upon by a Wood Pewee and driven out of sight.

On other occasions during the summer of 1899, this species was observed in this locality by Mr. Mosher.—J. A. FARLEY, *Malden, Mass.*

The Newfoundland Veery (*Hylocichla fuscescens fuliginosa*) in Massachusetts.—On the 27th of last September I shot a specimen of this lately described bird in Lanesboro, Berkshire Co., Mass.,—the first example taken in this State. The four autumnal records for New England fall within the narrow limits of five days (Sept. 23–27), and indicate a migration through this region considerably later than the departure of the native Veeries for the South. In 1889 I killed a Veery in Waltham, Mass., on the extraordinarily late date, Oct. 5. This bird was unfortunately not preserved, but without much doubt it belonged to the race *fuliginosa*.—WALTER FAXON, *Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, Cambridge, Mass.*

Notes from Northern New York.—At Chateaugay Lake, Clinton Co., N. Y., on Dec. 24, I saw a typical specimen of *Uria lomvia* which had been shot on the lake just before it was closed by the ice—that is, about Dec. 12 or 13, 1900.

On the 24th also I found the body of a Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*), from which the wings had been cut off, lying on top of the snow on the margin of the lake. As the last heavy snow in that section fell on Dec. 12, 1900, the bird could not have been killed before that date. The plumage was immature.—GEO. C. SHATTUCK, *Boston, Mass.*

Florida Bird Notes.—The greatest migration of birds that I have ever witnessed occurred here during about two hours of the morning of Jan. 31. The movement was composed exclusively of White-bellied Swallows, thousands of which passed headed south; wind fresh S. W., thermometer 50°. This migration was evidently caused by a cold wave in the upper portion of the State.

Ruby-throated Hummingbirds have been with us all winter, also Bonaparte's Gulls. This is the first season I have observed the latter here.—E. J. BROWN, *Lemon City, Florida.*

Notes from the Magdalen Islands.—I had the pleasure the past season, with Mr. C. S. Day, of spending three weeks at the Magdalen Islands. We devoted most of the time to Coffin Island and East Point, as being least known, arriving there on June 12. For four days we were isolated from the world at the wonderful Bird Rocks. The following are a few of the more noteworthy of many observations.

On June 13 Mr. Day was so fortunate as to flush a Least Sandpiper (*Tringa minutilla*) from her nest with four half-incubated eggs. The nest was a mere hollow in the 'barrens,' just back from the edge of a slough, among sparse growth of coarse grass and moss, the structural part consisting of simply a few dry bayberry leaves. The eggs were of a light grayish buff, marked rather sparsely, except at the crown, where there was a thick mass of spots and blotches. The markings were of a rich dark brown, verging on blackish at the crown, with occasional subdued lilac. In size they varied only from 1.18 to 1.20 inches in length, and from .82 to .88 in breadth. The owners were both present, and so exceedingly tame that I photographed one of them upon the nest. The love song is beautiful, a mellow twittering, emitted as the bird circles about. I met the species several times, and it is considered by the fishermen a regular and frequent breeder.

The same is their opinion regarding both the Scaup Ducks. I saw Scaups occasionally, and finally discovered a nest of the Greater Scaup (*Aythya marila nearctica*) with nine eggs, June 29, on a small island in "the Great Pond," flushing the female at very close quarters. The nest was a bed of down in the grass, the eggs fresh and notably larger than the many of the Lesser Scaup I have found in the West, ranging in